Use of broad gauge lines by Delhi Metro

†2783. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to lay the broad gauge line for Delhi Metro instead of the standard gauge lines;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Metro administration had suggested the standard gauge lines for metro; and

(c) if so, the reasons for converting the same into broad gauge?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) It was decided to use broad gauge for the Delhi Metro, although the DMRC had recommended standard gauge, to enable the Indian Railways to provide necessary back stopping and infrastructure support for the project as well as on account of considerations of inter-operability and development of future dependence on indigenous capacity.

Demolitions in Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi

2784. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the massive demolition in residential houses in Ramesh Nagar area of West Delhi which is a rehabilitation colony like Lajpat Nagar, Rajinder Nagar etc. in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Task Force on rehabilitation colonies set up in 2002 after the Lajpat Nagar demolitions is examining the issue and has still not submitted its report despite a gap of three years while it was to submit its report within two months; and

(d) the relief proposed for the harassed residents through the Task Force and the new Master Plan?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that its building department is taking demolition action against the unauthorized construction in some residential houses in Ramesh Nagar (Double Storey) area as per the direction of the Delhi High Court.

(c) and (d) The Task Force constituted by the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi was to endeavour to complete its work within a period of two months. It is informed that the report has not been finalized.

Development of construction sector

2785. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction sector has good potential to grow 7 to 8 per cent annually; and

(b) if so, Government's action plan to develop this sector and also the urban transport and civil infrastructure in the urban sector to boost economy?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Conversion of flats into freehold

2786. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the enormous difficulties faced by the residents of DDA flats and housing societies in getting their residential units converted into freehold;

(b) whether Government are aware that a large number of allottees of Himalaya Apartments, Plot No. 61, I.P. Extension Delhi have been facing harassment at the hands of DDA officials in getting their freehold papers despite completion of all formalities;

(c) the action being taken against the officials responsible for the delay;

(d) the time-frame within which the pending applications are likely to be cleared; and